

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 797

By Herron

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Bennie L. Boxx of
Weakley County.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the death of Bennie L. Boxx; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boxx was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, Bennie Boxx served with acumen and alacrity as the founder and owner of B & R Machine and Gear Corporation, in which position he earned the respect of his employees and clients alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, born in Sidonia, Tennessee, Mr. Boxx was raised in Chicago, where he graduated from the eighth grade, completed the ninth grade, and began his career in the gear business; and

WHEREAS, after taking his initial position in the gear business with Industrial Gear, Bennie Boxx worked his way up through the gear industry and developed a complete knowledge of gearing through his tenures with Arrow Gear, Clipper Industries, Cadillac Machinery, Balfre Gear, and Bradfoote Gear; and

WHEREAS, known as "Einstein" throughout the gear industry because of his superior knowledge, Mr. Boxx decided to venture out into business on his own and opened B & R Bevel Gears in Addison, Illinois in 1973; and

WHEREAS, as the years passed, his business prospered and grew, yet Bennie Boxx still dreamed of returning to his hometown in Tennessee, which he finally did in December of 1980, when he relocated his family and his entire business to Sharon; and

WHEREAS, with its new central location in Tennessee, B & R Machine Gear became a world renowned company specializing in spiral bevels with breakdown service; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his keen business sense, Mr. Boxx was possessed with a deep desire to give back to his community, and he endeavored to improve the lives of his fellow Weakley Countians and Tennesseans through community service; and

WHEREAS, Bennie Boxx was a staunch supporter of numerous community organizations and projects, including the NCO Underprivileged Children's Fund, the Weakley County Schools, Girl Scout and Brownie Troops, children's and adult's baseball teams, Relay for Life, Weakley County Alliance for a Safe and Drug Free Tennessee, the UTM Engineering Department, and the UTM Scholarship Fund; and

WHEREAS, Bennie Boxx was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boxx enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife, Doretta, and was the proud father of Bennie R. Boxx, Terry Boxx, Brenda Sudzum, and Suzette Kelly; and

WHEREAS, Bennie Boxx is also survived by his brother, Danny; sister, Carolyn Burnett; thirteen grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boxx was preceded in death by his daughter, Doretta Denise Boxx; his brother, Gaylon Boxx; his three sisters, Margaret Farmer, Brenda Sellars, and Joan Rollins; and his parents, Ben and Lula Boxx; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boxx leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional businessman, public servant, and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Bennie L. Boxx, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Boxx.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.